

Date Mailed  
September 10, 1998

BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Joint Application of Northern States Power Company-Wisconsin,  
Northern States Power Company-Minnesota, and Dairyland  
Power Cooperative for Authority to Construct and Place in  
Service Electric Transmission Lines and Electric Substation  
Facilities for the Chisago Transmission Project, Located in  
Chisago County, Minnesota, and Polk County, Wisconsin

1515-CE-102  
4220-CE-155

**NOTICE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

<b>Prehearing Date:</b>	<b>September 29, 1998, 10 a.m.</b>
<b>Prehearing Location:</b>	<b>Amnicon Falls Hearing Room (First Floor) Public Service Commission, 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, Wisconsin</b>

On September 6, 1996, Northern States Power Company-Wisconsin (NSPW), Northern States Power Company-Minnesota (NSPM), and Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) filed an application with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (Commission) for authority, under ss. 196.49 and 196.491, Stats., and chs. PSC 111 and 112, Wis. Adm. Code, to construct new electric facilities. The original application proposed to construct two projects: 1) a 230,000 volt (230 kV) "Chisago-Apple River" electric transmission line from Chisago County, Minnesota, to Amery, Wisconsin; and 2) a 161 kV "Stone Lake-Bay Front" electric transmission line in Wisconsin from Stone Lake to Ashland.

In October 1997, NSPW asked the Commission to consider the Stone Lake-Bay Front 161 kV line as a separate project. In November 1997, the Commission granted this request and established a separate docket for the Stone Lake-Bay Front Transmission Line Project (docket 4220-CE-157). After hearings in this docket, the Commission authorized the construction of the Stone Lake-Bay Front Transmission Line Project on April 30, 1998.

DPC, NSPM, and NSPW (Applicants) state that the Chisago Electric Transmission Line Project is required to maintain adequate electric service to northwestern Wisconsin and the Taylor Falls area of eastern Minnesota. They propose to maintain customer service reliability by building new electric transmission facilities to meet the growing electric energy needs of these

areas. The proposal would require construction of the transmission lines, substation, and associated facilities described below:

- ?? Construct a new 38-mile 230 kV transmission line between the Chisago County Substation near Stacy, Minnesota, and the Apple River Substation near Amery, Wisconsin;
- ?? Construct a new 15-mile 115 kV transmission line between the Chisago Substation and the proposed Lawrence Creek Substation near Taylor Falls, Minnesota;
- ?? Construct a new Lawrence Creek Substation;
- ?? Rebuild a 69 kV transmission line between the proposed Lawrence Creek Substation and the Apple River Substation;
- ?? Install a new 345/230 kV transformer at the Chisago County Substation;
- ?? Install a new 230/161 kV transformer at the Apple River Substation.

For the purpose of public notice and information, and in accordance with s. 196.491(3)(a), Stats., copies of the application have been sent to the following: the public libraries in Amery, Balsam Lake, Centuria, and St. Croix Falls; the county clerk of Polk County; the town clerks of Apple River, Osceola, and St. Croix Falls; the city clerks of Amery and St. Croix Falls; and the village clerks of Balsam Lake and Dresser.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a prehearing conference will be held on Tuesday, September 29, 1998, at 10 a.m. in the Amnicon Falls Hearing Room (first floor) of the Public Service Commission Building, 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, Wisconsin. This building is accessible to people in wheelchairs through the first floor entrance on the front side (lobby) of the building. A sign in the lobby will indicate the room for the prehearing conference. Parking is available at the front entrance. Any party with a disability who needs additional accommodations should contact Richard Teslaw at (608) 267-9766.

The purpose of the prehearing conference is to (1) identify the persons who will actively participate as full parties, (2) specify dates for filing testimony and exhibits, (3) identify and designate the issues, and (4) consider such other matters as will facilitate the hearing. Full parties will be bound by the designation of issues and the schedules adopted at the prehearing conference. Persons who consider themselves potential full parties should attend the prehearing conference. If you intend to participate as a full party and have not already done so, please indicate such interest in writing to the Examining Division, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7854.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this matter is a Class 1 proceeding. See s. 227.01(3)(a), Stats.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Commission staff shall file a synopsis or summary of the testimony or other evidence presented at the hearing in this case. The parties, pursuant to s. 196.24(3), Stats, as amended by 1997 Wisconsin Act 204, Section 24, may demonstrate that a synopsis or summary is not sufficiently complete or accurate to fairly reflect the relevant and material testimony or other evidence presented at the hearing.

If there are any questions regarding the prehearing conference scheduled in this notice, please contact Ms. Donna L. Paske, Hearing Examiner at (608) 266-1773.

Other questions regarding this matter may be directed to Mr. Udaivir S. Sirohi, Case Coordinator, at (608) 266-2806.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, \_\_\_\_\_

By the Commission:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lynda L. Dorr  
Secretary to the Commission

LLD:USS:bap:G:\Notice\Pending\1515-CE-102 4220-CE-155 Prehearing